



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, EIGHTH UNITED STATES ARMY
UNIT #15236
APO AP 96205-0009

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

EAGC-EA (95-3b)

13 MAR 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Extended Range Fuel System Operations for UH-60 and AH-64 Aircraft

1. References:

a. Safety of Flight Message EH/UH-60-98-01 and AH-64-98-01, 271945Z Jan 98, subject: EH/UH-60 and AH-64 aircraft, Risk Management of 230 Gallon External Tank Flight Operations (Encl 1).

b. Memorandum, DA, HQ EUSA, EAGC-EA, 9 Jul 97, subject: AH-64 External Fuel Tank Operations (Encl 2).

2. The reference message at 1a. states the Extended Range Fuel System (ERFS), currently employed on much of the UH-60 and AH-64 fleets of the Eighth United States Army, presents inherently increased risk. We have several situations where the use of the ERFS is necessary to accomplish our missions. However, it is imperative that the commanders I authorize or delegate the approval authority to employ the ERFS fully understand the associated risks and fully implement the mandated control measures in the stated references.

3. I delegate the authority to approve the use of ERFS to the Commander, 2d Infantry Division and the Commander, 19th Theater Army Area Command for the aircraft within their respective commands. I authorize the 6th Cavalry Brigade to use the ERFS for contingency missions within current OPLANS and to conduct the training on the ERFS to support those missions. Additionally, I authorize the 17th Aviation Brigade to use the ERFS for the CINCHAWK and missions tasked by me, wherein, the Brigade Commander deems it essential to employ the ERFS to accomplish those missions. The 17th Aviation Brigade is also authorized to conduct the training on the ERFS to support those missions.

4. I want to ensure that the acceptance of risk is at the appropriate command level for the ERFS operations. Risk acceptance level for "medium risk" fueled ERFS operations is the battalion/squadron commander or above. Risk acceptance level for "high risk" fueled ERFS operations is the brigade commander or above. Risk acceptance for "extreme high risk" fueled ERFS operations is the first general officer in the chain of command.

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5. Organizations' standard operating procedures will include those items specified in Reference 1a. They will also establish specific ERFs storage, preservation and depreservation criteria and procedures. This includes developing a method to track the ERFs last operation or the next operational period due before preservation or servicing is required. When an ERFs non-operational period exceeds 30 days, the system is placed in storage using the procedures in Section 1-43 of TM 1-1520-237-23-1. An ERFs coming out of storage will be purged and serviced as outlined in TM 1-1500-204-23-3 prior to operational use. An ERFs that exceeds the thirty-day non-operational period, and not placed in storage, will be removed from the aircraft and purged prior to being placed back into service according to the guidelines outlined in TM 1-1500-204-23-3.

6. The action office for this policy is the G3 Deep Operations Division, Aviation Branch, ATTN: EAGC-EA-ES at 723-3508/6599.

2 Encls
as


DANIEL J. PETROSKY
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:

Commander, 2d Infantry Division
Commander, 19th Theater Army Area Command
Commander, 2ID, EAID-GO-AV
Commander, 17th Aviation Brigade
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